

Significant Changes in Milk Utilization Between 1940 and 1945, United States

There have been some rather significant shifts between 1940 and 1945 in the quantity of milk going into various dairy products. Total milk production increased over 11 percent, but consumption of milk and cream in cities and villages increased 39 percent. Creamery butter consumption was 25 percent less in 1945 than in 1940 and farm butter consumption was down 17 percent. The production of all cheese increased 41 percent and canned evaporated milk increased 54 percent. The volume of dry whole milk products in 1945 was more than nine times greater than in 1940.

Consideration of these wartime shifts in dairy production immediately causes one to question to what extent this new pattern of milk utilization will be maintained. Maintenance of large fluid milk consumption means a larger income for milk producers and more total nutrients for consumers.

The volume of milk used in all manufactured dairy products (about 55 billion pounds) showed very little change between 1940 and 1945, but substantial shifts took place in the type of products manufactured. Almost all of the decrease in the volume of creamery butter produced was offset by increases in cheese, evaporated and condensed milk, ice cream, and dry milk products, reflecting an increased noncivilian demand for these products.

Milk production in 1945 was the largest on record and was obtained by a high yield per cow. Cow numbers were lower than in 1944. In 1945, milk production per cow averaged 4,789 pounds, and so far in 1946, the production per cow is the highest on record. Nevertheless, total milk production in 1946 is expected to be 2 or 3 percent below the record output in 1945, because of a further reduction of cow numbers.

The returns per unit to dairy farmers will be higher in the second half of 1946 than they were at any time this year or last year. Consequently, with the great need for milk that may be expected this fall, it seems that farmers should plan now to obtain maximum milk production during September, October and November.

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Utilization of Milk in Milk Equivalents in the United States,
1940 and 1945.

(In Millions)

<u>Use</u>	<u>1940</u> <u>Pounds</u>	<u>Percent</u> <u>of</u> <u>1940</u>	<u>1945</u> <u>Pounds</u> <u>1/</u>	<u>Percent</u> <u>of</u> <u>1945</u>	<u>Percent</u> <u>change 1945</u> <u>over 1940</u>
Consumed as milk or cream in cities and villages, etc.	33,519	29.8	46,726	37.4	+ 39.4
Creamery butter <u>2/</u>	36,801	32.8	27,419	21.9	- 25.5
All cheese	7,862	7.0	11,113	8.9	+ 41.4
Canned evaporated milk	5,266	4.7	8,124	6.5	+ 54.3
Ice cream <u>3/</u>	3,730	3.3	4,922 <u>4/</u>	3.9	+ 32.0
Bulk and canned condensed <u>5/</u>	614	.6	809	.6	+ 31.8
Dry whole milk products	277	.2	2,598	2.1	+937.9
Milk and cream consumed on farms where produced	12,072	10.7	11,702	9.4	- 3.1
Farm butter	8,129	7.2	6,765	5.4	- 16.8
Fed to calves	2,995	2.7	3,301	2.6	+ 10.2
Other	1,071	1.0	1,566	1.3	+ 46.2
Total milk production	112,336	100.0	125,045	100.0	+ 11.3

Source: Farm Production, Disposition and Income From Milk, 1944-45, BAE

1/ Preliminary

2/ Excludes milk equivalent of whey butter

3/ Excludes milk duplicated in butter and condensed milk

4/ Includes iced milk and sherbets

5/ Sweet and unsweetened